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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL (April 1, 1986) - The Eastern Illinois men's track team will travel to Bloomington to compete in the Illinois State Invitational this weekend.

The Panthers are coming off a strong showing over spring break in which they had many impressive finishes at the Louisiana State Relays, the Northeast Louisiana Invitational and a dual meet against Louisiana Tech.

Sophomore Jim Maton (Shelbyville) had strong showings throughout the southern trip. Maton placed sixth in the 800-meter in the LSU Relays with a time of 1:50.30. In the dual meet against Louisiana Tech, Maton captured first place finishes in the 1500-meter run and the 800-meter run with times of 3:52.81 and 1:52.81.

In the LSU Relays senior Bob Mazanke placed eighth in the discus with a throw of 160 ft and 6 inches.

Senior Larry Priebe took a first in the javelin against Louisiana Tech with a throw of 200 ft and 8 inches.

In the Northeast Louisiana Invitational, senior Roxy Wood placed first in the pole vault with a school record jump of 16-0½.

Freshman Ian Issacs is becoming one of Eastern's outstanding 400-meter runners as he placed fourth with a time of 47.65 in the Northeast Louisiana Invitational.

Eastern will have to be in top form for this weekend's ISU Invitational. Other schools competing include: Northern Iowa, Iowa State and Western Illinois. "This meet will have some tough competition," said assistant coach Tom Akers. "The main thing we're looking for is steady improvement."

"Now that we've had some time to rest up, we should be in pretty good shape," Akers said.

"This meet will also give us a chance to look at some of the guys that didn't get to travel to Louisiana with the team."